

DHS Component Actions
Hurricane IRMA – Atlantic Ocean
0600 ET 6 Sep 2017

Updates in Bold and Blue

Overview

Major Hurricane IRMA is an extremely dangerous category 5 hurricane on the Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Wind Scale. At 0200 ET, the eye of Major Hurricane IRMA was located about 40 miles north of Antigua, moving west-northwest at 15 mph. Maximum sustained winds are 185 mph with higher gusts. Some fluctuations in intensity are likely during the next day or two, but IRMA is forecast to remain a powerful category 4 or 5 hurricane during the next couple of days. The chance of direct impacts from IRMA later this week and weekend is increasing for the Florida Keys and parts of the Florida Peninsula. The outer rain bands from IRMA may reach southern Florida Saturday morning. It is still too soon to pin down specific impacts on Florida.

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

- *FEMA Headquarters:*
 - NRCC Level I (for Harvey & IRMA)
 - National Incident Management Assistance Team (IMAT)-E2 to Region IV (ETA 6 Sep)
 - US&R Red Incident Support Team is staging in Herndon, VA; VA-TF2 deployed to PR
 - Crisis Action Planning Team activated
 - **15 Preliminary Damage Assessment Teams on standby**
 - **Surge staffing continues for FEMA Strategic Workforce Augmentation Team (SWAT)**
 - Logistics:
 - **Establishing ISBs in PR and Distribution Center Atlanta**
 - **Commodities arriving in the USVI**
 - **FEMA Corps members lodging on USS LEXINGTON**
- *FEMA Region II:*
 - Regional Response Coordination Center (RRCC): Level II (24/7) with all ESFs & Defense Coordinating Element (DCE) for day shift; ESFs 1,3,8,12 & DCE for night shift; RWC: Steady State
 - **4 X IMATs deployed to PR and USVI**
 - Pre-designated Federal Coordinating Officer deployed to PR
 - Maynard Mobile Emergency Response Support deployed to PR & USVI
 - USACE, Disaster Medical Assistance Team, and U.S. Geological Survey in PR
 - US Virgin Islands (USVI):
 - **Virgin Island Territorial Emergency Management Agency (VITEMA) fully activated**

- State of Emergency declared; National Guard activated
 - All area schools are closed
- Puerto Rico (PR):
 - **Emergency Operations Center at fully activated**
 - State of Emergency declared; National Guard Activated
- **FEMA Region III:**
 - **RRCC: Level III (Day shift only); transitioning to Level I 7 Sep**
 - **IMAT-1: Deploying to Virginia EOC**
- *FEMA Region IV:*
 - RRCC: activated to Level II (day shift only), with all ESFs & DCE
 - **IMAT-1 and LNOs deployed to FL; IMAT-2 on standby**
 - Florida:
 - **EOC at Full Activation**
 - Governor declared State of Emergency for the entire state
 - Regional Risk Analysis/Hurricane Liaison Team deployed to the Hurricane Center

Customs and Border Protection (CBP)

- **The Lead Field Coordinator (LFC) and CBP components within Region IV are closely monitoring the development of Hurricane IRMA and its forecast through the Caribbean Region.**
- **24 hours Incident Command Post (ICP) was activated at midnight Tuesday at the San Juan Field Office. ICP will remain staffed until the emergency concludes.**
- **Satellite phone communications tested for Incident Command Post, St. Thomas, St. Croix, and the outer ports in Puerto Rico.**
- **Continuity of Operations Plans (COOP) being reviewed to ensure all preparedness actions are being completed as appropriate.**
- **Additional security guards have been scheduled at all CBP facilities to increase physical security during the storm and in the aftermath of the hurricane.**
- **All requests for assistance made by employees on TDY to secure their properties are in process.**
- **Non-Intrusive Inspection systems and other large vehicles stored in a secure location.**
- **Support staff and other administrative duty personnel were released beginning at 1100 ET on 5 Sep based on their need to prepare and operational requirements.**
- **Puerto Rico Ports Authority closed the airports in Vieques and Culebra, and CBP personnel in these islands are being reassigned to the main island in Puerto Rico.**
- **St Thomas Marine Unit - Currently working to relocate personnel and family members out of USVI.**
- **The Caribbean Air and Marine Branch has secured all aircraft and vehicles in the hangar and removed all vessels from the water.**
- **The Caribbean Air and Marine Operations Center closed at 2300 ET on 5 Sep until further notice.**
- **CBP Emergency Operations Center (EOC) remains staffed.**

- The LFC construct has been activated in Region IV, empowering Director of Field Operations, Miami, with tactical control of all CBP assets within the Region. Counter to FEMA regional mapping, CBP assets in Puerto Rico and U.S. Virgin Islands report under CBP Region IV.
- Operations Support / Planning, Analysis, Requirements Evaluation (PARE) / Incident Management has engaged with CBP Region IV LFC Emergency Management staff; no unmet needs or requirements have been reported or assistance requested.
- Office of Information Technology has staged a Satellite Flyaway Kit for (Network Connectivity / Data Transmission) in Miami and an additional two in Houston ready for deployment and reports no unmet needs.

Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE)

- **ICE Crisis Action Team (CAT)**
 - The ICE CAT is on standby for activation to support the response to Hurricane IRMA.
- **ICE Tactical Communication (TACCOM)**
 - Staging two (2) Mobile Command Centers in the Pensacola, FL area.
- **HSI Miami**
 - In order to align with the Miami-Dade and Broward schools as well as to allow personnel to properly prepare for Hurricane IRMA, the office will be closed starting Thursday 7 Sep. Weather permitting; the Emergency Relocation Group (ERG) will begin the process of assessing damage and re-opening the office on Monday 11 Sep. All personnel are required to monitor their government issued cell phones and the ENS application for updated information on operating status as well as post storm wellness checks. During the office closure the ERG will continue to convene regularly via conference call and will disseminate important information via ENS. Additional assistance from outside the area of responsibility (AOR) has been requested.
- **HSI Tampa**
 - Coordinated with Miami.
 - Convened a conference call today with all of the offices in the AOR to make sure every plan was updated. We will test the ENS system tonight. Tomorrow, will meet with the Special Response Team, Rapid Response Team (RRT) and ERG to go over responsibilities.
- **HSI San Juan**
 - HSI San Juan is now ready to receive Hurricane IRMA. Employees spent 5 Sep fueling and securing government vehicles, and protecting office equipment with plastic sheets. The office will be closed 6 Sep, returning morning of 7 Sep. Sector San Juan will work until 0600 ET tomorrow and resume operations on 7 Sep at 0600 ET. The San Juan RRT will be activated immediately after the storm providing assistance and locating those employees that would not be able to report by phone.
 - There are no TDY personnel in the HSI San Juan AOR.
- **ERO**

- There are no detainees in Puerto Rico.

Transportation Security Administration (TSA)

- **Operational Status:**
 - San Juan (SJU): Plan to close morning of 6 Sep. Review airport operations and reopening status at 0600 ET on 7 Sep.
 - Saint Thomas (STT): Closed 6 Sep.
 - St. Croix (STX): normal operations.
 - Rafael Hernandez (BQN): cancelation probable PM 6 Sep.
 - Mercedita (PSE): cancelation probable PM 6 Sep.
- Ride out team at SJU for duration of storm – hotel rooms, MREs, water secured for employees
- Power/Communications remain biggest concern – Radio strategy in place, MARS/SAP phones tested along with HAM radios, all operational
- OSO Resource Allocations
 - Aguadailla, PR - BQN: **23 (-7)**
 - Ponce, PR - PSE: **15 (+1)**
 - San Jose, PR - SJU: **293 (+6)**
 - Charlotte Amale, VI - STT: **81 (+4)**
 - St. Croix, VI - STX: **33 (+2)**
 - Palm Beach International - PBI: **220 (-7)**
 - Miami - MIA: **1297 (+4)**
 - Key West - EYW: 2
 - **Fort Lauderdale - FLL: 936**

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS)

- EVACUATION – Management has asked to draft potential Evacuation Orders
- PERSONNEL - USCIS is conducting pre-landfall personnel accountability actions.
- Field Operations (FOD):
 - Puerto Rico Field Office – 24
 - Virgin Islands – 13
- Refugee, Asylum, and International Operations (RAIO):
 - Havana – 2 (1 TDY and 1 permanent)
 - Santo Domingo – 2 (1 permanent)
 - Port-au-Prince – **3 (+1)**
- **San Juan and USVI offices now closed until post storm period. Florida offices preparing for the storm as per the Hurricane OPLAN.**

U.S. Coast Guard (USCG)

- **Hurricane Condition I set for USCG Sector San Juan & USCG Air station Borinquen**
- **Port Condition YANKEE set for all Puerto Rico(PR) and US Virgin Islands(VI) ports, Port Condition WHISKEY set for Key West**

- **USCG Air Station Savannah is Partially Mission Capable and USCG Air Facility Charleston non-mission capable due to Hurricane HARVEY support. USCG Station San Juan is non-mission capable.**
- **Anticipate D7 Command Center stand up in Miami; COOP action considered based upon path of the storm / D7 COOP advance team departing for St. Louis via USCG Air Station Miami aircraft**
- The USCG Sector San Juan (SSJ) Commander has been in contact with the PR civil authorities in San Juan. **Mandatory evacuation issued for residents of PR along of Dorado to San Juan.**
- There have been no requests from interagency partners in PR for USCG support.
- **Dependents from the US Virgin Islands and high risk dependents from Puerto Rico (PR) have evacuated to Orlando, FL via USCG HC-130 aircraft (40 active duty and dependents and 19 pets from USVI, and an unknown number of high risk dependents).**
- Two Active Duty from Marine Safety Detachment St. Thomas and 14 Active Duty from Marine Safety Detachment St. Croix will shelter in place with local EOCs.
- Cutter Operations
 - **Ship Sortie data: CGC YELLOWFIN and CGC GRIESSER en route Aruba, Bonaire, Curacao (ABCs) from San Juan 5 Sep. CGC DIXON is en route ABCs from Eastern Caribbean. CGC VALIANT will lead Surface Action Group (SAG) from Windward Passage (WWP) with CGC HERNANDEZ, CGC NAPIER, CGC HORSLEY and CGC TEZANOS who are underway from San Juan.**
 - CGC DILIGENCE has Motor Tanker (M/T) FAT CROW under tow and will loiter south of the Yucatan and will proceed towards St. Petersburg when safe to do so.
 - CGC CONFIDENCE chopped back to Joint Interagency Task Force - South.
 - Five cutters currently in USCG District Seven (D7) ports are unable to sortie due to depot level maintenance; all other cutters are capable of sortie, if necessary.
- Great Inagua, Bahamas-based MH-60 helicopters **were relocated to Rafael Hernandez Airport, Aguadilla, PR.**
- USCG Atlantic Area is filling a three-person SSJ Incident Management Assist Team (IMAT) request.
- USCG filled one Emergency Preparedness Liaison Officer (EPLO) to St. Croix.
- All three of the D7 Regions/RRTs are at the highest state of readiness.
- Base Miami Beach (BMB) deployed a three person Strike Team to meet evacuated members and dependents in Orlando and assist with arrangements.
- Request for Forces (RFF) from D7 for three rescue swimmers for USCG Air Station Borinquen was filled with member's en-route on 4 Sep.
- D7 is deploying a three person Public Affairs Detachment to SSJ on 5 Sep to assist.
- D7's Incident Management Team activated on 5 Sep; currently drafting RFF for five person IMAT support.

National Protection and Programs Directorate (NPPD)

- NCCIC:
 - **Office of Emergency Communications (OEC) deployed one staff member to Colt's Neck, NJ in support of a FEMA Mission Assignment**
 - **OEC will establish daily Emergency Performance Reporting (EPR) for the Government Emergency Telephone Service (GETS) to track call completion rates and priority access usage during anticipated telephone network congestion during Hurricane IRMA. The EPR will be provided to the NCC / NCCIC on a daily basis for awareness.**
 - NCCIC/NCC distributed a Situational Alert to industry and regional partners and will publish a Warning Order to alert personnel of a potential response status.
 - On 3 Sep, ESF 2 deployed one person to Region II RRCC, Two ESF 2 personnel were activated in Region IV, and the NRCC ESF 2 remains staffed and supporting 24/7 operations. One additional person has been identified to deploy to Region IV later this week.
 - On 4 Sep, NCCIC/NCC held Regional/National Government and Industry partner calls to provide situational awareness and identify requirements/needs.
 - No primary facilities are being impacted at this time. Surge support will be utilized for ESF 2 communications sector response.
 - Essential functions are being performed at NCCIC Corry Station, NCCIC Glebe, NRCC, RRCC (Region II, III or IV)
 - No resources are needed at this time
- Infrastructure Protection (IP) / Protective Security Coordination Division
 - **Protective Security Advisor (PSA) Puerto Rico is in district and has been in contact with CI owners and operators from all sectors from his post at the PR IOC. One Chemical Safety Inspector is in district conducting chemical inspections and has offered support and assistance in his capacity as a Region II Chemical Inspector. PSA New Jersey, is supporting the FEMA Region II RCC.**
 - **PSA PR has created a Special Events and Domestic Incident Tracker (SEdit) scenario complete with a list of Infrastructure of Concern (IOC). CI owners and operators are monitoring IRMA and making necessary plan and preparations while maintaining communication with PSA PR. He has also requested and received fuel storage level reports from fuel terminals and power generation plants.**
 - **Region IV Regional Operations Manager (ROM) will staff the FEMA Region IV Response Coordination Center.**
 - IP Region IV Director (IP RD) is participating in Daily FEMA Region IV Senior Leadership briefings.
 - Region IV has developed a Personnel Accountability, Staffing, and Deployment Plan.
 - IP RD, Chief, Protective Security (CPS), and ROM have updated and finalized Region IV SITREP for Region IV Hurricane Incident Response and Reporting.
 - Conducting daily analysis to determine NPPD employees that may be affected by

Hurricane IRMA.

- **FL PSA will staff the FL State Emergency Operations Center.**
- Hurricane IRMA PSA Conference Call was conducted 4 Sep to discuss PSA and Region IV office preparation and response.
- IP Region IV Director, Chief Regulatory Compliance (CRC) and Regional Operations Manager (ROM) have finalized CFATS tracker for Chemical facilities potentially impacted by Hurricane IRMA and will be on duty at the regional office.
- IP RD and ROM conducted coordination with Office of Critical Infrastructure Analysis IP GEO for GIS support in event of hurricane landfall.
- IP Region IV Director and Regional Sector Outreach Coordinator have developed a HSIN Connect page for IP Regional Incident Information Sharing expected to be launched 5 Sep.
- **Office of Biometric Identity Management (OBIM)**
 - **Hurricane IRMA's path could impact either DHS Data Center, which would degrade departmental biometric matching capability during an outage. OBIM will continue to monitor the storm and transfer IDENT operations to the safest Data Center, if necessary. The loss of one Data Center would create a long term effect on some DHS and partner agency operations, with remaining matching capacity devoted to border entry and law enforcement activities during the day; catching up on national security, immigration, visa, and credentialing queries overnight. Biometric Support Center West in San Diego is scheduled to perform all manual verifications for the weekend and can extend that coverage if Biometric Center East (Rosslyn, VA) becomes unavailable. National Capital Region staff will be advised to prepare for situational telework if warranted.**

Domestic Nuclear Detection Office

- DNDO has no personnel in the affected region.
- All Mobile Detection Deployment Units are available to support operations as required.
- DNDO is standing by to support any CBP system replacement or repair needs, as required.